INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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TELEGRAPH BRANCH

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Control: 9820
Rec'd: July 22, 1950
2:24 p.m.

FROM: Brussels

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 103, July 22, 2 p.m.

Communist DRAPEAU ROUGE July 20 headlined "United States Embassy Recruiting Office Against the Korean People?" Alleging in article based on report in HERALD TRIBUNE that 60 Belgians a day have volunteered at this Embassy to join American Armed Forces, DRAPEAU ROUGE, of course, insists "not a man, not a sou for the American aggressors."

Facts are that since outbreak of Korean hostilities, Embassy has received 154 letters from would-be Belgian volunteers. Actual number is, however, greater since some letters were signed by as many as 20 people.

CONSUL Antwerp has received following typical inquiries requesting information regarding joining US Armed Forces: June 26 to 30--18 inquiries; July 3 to 7--27 inquiries; July 10 to 14--50; July 17 to 19--22; total 117.

Although inquiries in consular section Brussels of persons wanting visas for US have begun to drop off, following are statistics on registration of persons asking to be placed on immigration waiting list at Antwerp: June 26 to 30--50; July 3 to 7--84; July 10 to 14--190; July 14 to 19--110; total 434.

Antwerp reports that majority of persons subscribing name on visa waiting lists are refugees from Eastern Europe. Some applications for volunteers in armed forces come from men in prison hoping for reprieve in event they enlist.

Initial run on shops by hoarding housewives has now ceased and Belgium, in general, seems calm over external political situation.

MURPHY

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